

The City of San Francisco Department of Police Accountability

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAN FRANCISCO POLICE COMMISSION REVISES RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST OFFICERS

On May 15, 2019, the San Francisco Police Commission adopted the Department of Police Accountability's proposed revisions to General Order 2.04, the rules and regulations governing citizen complaints against officers. These revisions, the first since 1994, implement Department of Justice recommendations and affirm the DPA's independent authority to investigate police misconduct.

"I am proud that the DPA took the lead in the first updates to General Order 2.04 in more than twenty years," said Director Paul Henderson. "These revisions clarify and reaffirm the Department of Police Accountability's independent jurisdiction to investigate peace officer misconduct and are an important step to building public trust in our civilian oversight system."

The new General Order 2.04 recognizes the DPA's historical practices and clarifies its jurisdictional authority. The revisions acknowledge the DPA's independent jurisdiction to investigate officer involved shootings. The revisions also permit the DPA to accept and investigate complaints from other city agencies. And third, the revisions affirm the DPA's right to investigate complaints regarding conduct of off-duty officers if the officer has represented him or herself as law enforcement.

Finally, the new General Order 2.04 establishes the DPA's independence and important role in police oversight. Every police station must now make DPA materials and complaint forms easily accessible to the public. Citizens will no longer have to request complaint forms or DPA contact information from station keepers or other officers. The order also establishes a Quarterly Disciplinary Board that will hold quarterly meetings between the DPA and SFPD to identify and address disciplinary trends and training deficiencies.

The DPA will continue working to implement the Department of Justice's recommendations, strengthening the DPA, and improving public safety in San Francisco.